The Honors Journal
ΑΒΓ of Virtus Et Umbra
Alpha Beta Gamma
National Honor Society for Students Enrolled in Business and Professional Curricula at Two-year Degree Granting Institutions
Fall 2020

Annual Leadership Conference 2020 [Almost ...]

The conference site was booked, plans were made, travel plans were set, t-shirts were designed and made, reports and essays were submitted, the Scholarship Committee had read them and were ready to discuss the results, and students and advisers were looking forward to another great Leadership Conference

Then came along something called "COVID-19". And just like that, the conference was cancelled. Also, schools, businesses, travel, and sports eventually came to a screeching halt! We were understandably disappointed about missing the conference - we only meet once a year - but we all realized that it was for everyone's safety at the beginnings of what was to be a pandemic. It has forever changed us.

ABG members and chapters had worked tirelessly all year. So, in fairness, the awards and essay winners were still going to be decided in recognition of their efforts. The Scholarship Committee then began their deliberation on the winners. But like many people all over the country these days, it was done remotely. The winners are listed in this issue of the Honors Journal.

A tentative plan is that the 2021 Conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, Thursday, April 8 – Sunday, April 11, 2021. Confirmation and details regarding the 2021 conference will be posted later in the year on the ABG web site.

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of Alpha Beta Gamma

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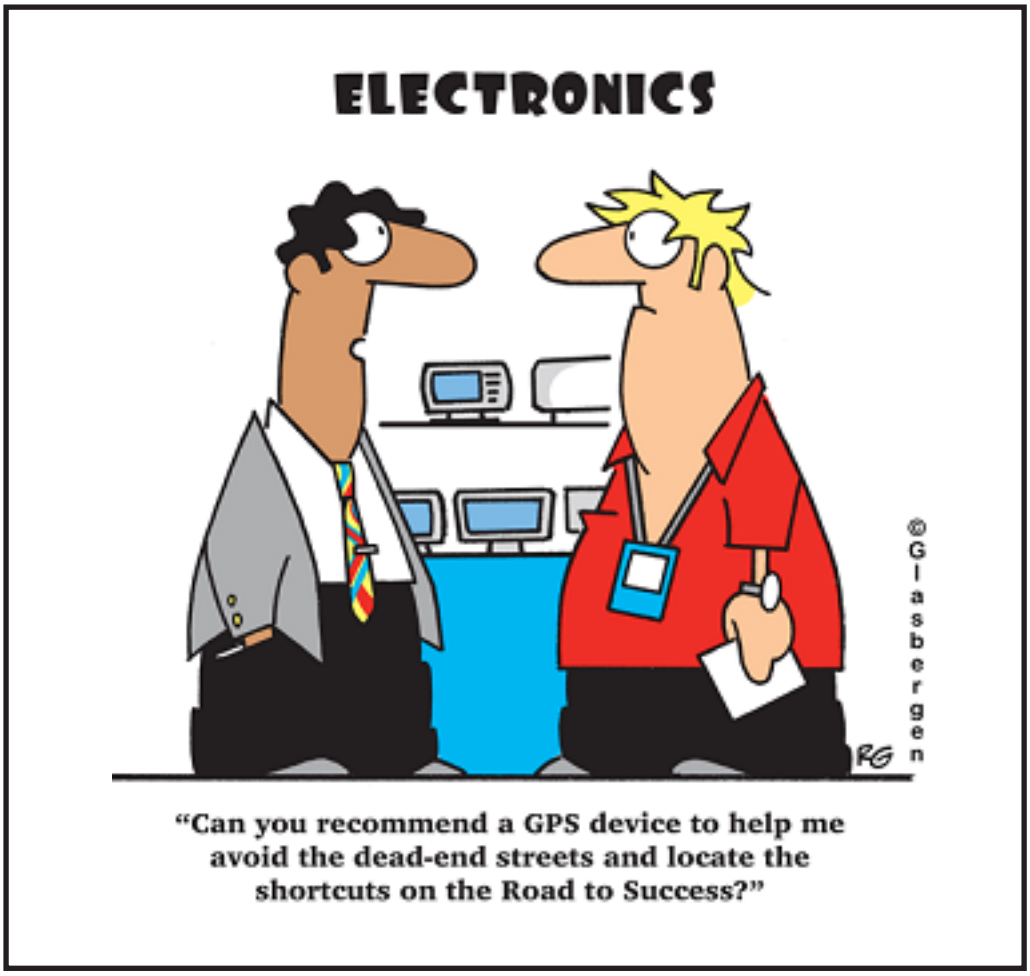
Special Features This Edition

2020 Leadership Conference

Awards selections..... pgs 4-5
Winning Essays ..... pgs 6, 7, 9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

Resources for Success

Ten Ways to be a Successful Student ..... pg 8
What Every College Student Should Be Doing for Career Success . pgs 14-15
Groaners and Quotes to Live By ..... pg 19



LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2020

Each year at the Annual Leadership Conference, Alpha Beta Gammans are selected for exceptional contributions. The 2020 award winners in each of the categories are listed below.

Chapter Awards

The Brooks College Golden Key Award
Beta Omicron,
Northern Essex Community College

Excellence in Financial Management
Eta Psi,
Delaware Technical and Community College, Owens Campus

Excellence in Recruitment
Delta Sigma,
Lee College

Excellence in Campus Service
Gamma,
Vincennes University

Donald Bertram Community Service Award
Gamma Pi,
Bryant & Stratton College
Rochester, NY Campus

Best Chapter Website
Chi Zeta,
Athens Technical College

Individual Awards

Hausman Siegel Distinguished Chapter President Award
Nickey Pereyra, Beta Omicron,
Northern Essex Community College

The Zagara Competitors Award
Michael Stellato, Beta Omicron
Northern Essex Community College

The Harold E. Tepool Award
Gamma,
Vincennes University

Congratulations!

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2020

Essay Competition Awards

Read the award-winning essays throughout this edition of the Honors Journal.

Dr. Mary Bone Competitive Essay 6
Katie Lacroix, Beta Omicron

Sophia Abeles Essay 7
Karen Richards, Beta Omicron

Ester Cross-Carter Memorial Essay 9
Shanna Guy, Beta Omicron

Nathan Ancell Award 10
Vasil Zisi, Beta Omicron

Don Christesen Memorial Essay 16
Yasmine Toure, Eta Rho

David Bjorklund Memorial Essay 17
Brandon Leatherman, Gamma

Paul V. Cunningham Essay 18
Zaida Gamboa, Beta Omicron

Francis Cunningham Memorial Essay 20
Ashley Holeman, Gamma

Keith Ulich Memorial Essay 21
Luke Lehe, Gamma

Steve Perri Memorial Essay 22
Brooke Naatz, Beta Omicron

John D. Christesen Essay 23
Paul Allen, Lee College

My Best Day In Class 24
Jennifer Miller, Georgia State University, Perimeter College

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What Alpha Betta Gamma Means to Me
Katie Lacroix, Beta Omicron

Deciding to come back to school after being out for eighteen years was scary. I am older and did not know if this was something, I could juggle. The thought of raising my family and attending college full time was quite intimidating, but it was something I felt I needed to do. I wanted to feel as though I could accomplish something in my life that I never thought imaginable. I am a first-generation college student in my family, and I want to do my family proud. They are what matter most to me and I am doing this not just for myself but for them as well.

I started my first semester and was ready to give up after the first two days. I learned what was expected of me, the amount of work I needed to complete on top of my family's needs. This was going to be a challenge I did not think I could take on. I thought there is no way, but I pushed through every day with ups and downs and lots of stress, but the outcome was quite rewarding. I completed my first semester and did well. I was ready to move on to the next semester.

A few weeks after finals and into winter break, I received a letter in the mail stating I was accepted into Alpha Beta Gamma, the business honor society. I read the letter over a few times and could not believe that I got accepted into this prestigious group. I was grateful. A few weeks I received another letter stating I made the Dean's List. I was emotional, overwhelmed, excited, and proud all at the same time for all I achieved in one semester. It was a feeling I will never forget. I knew at that moment I made the right decision. Today I am in my fourth semester persevering. I have faced ups and downs along the way, it has not been easy, but I will keep pushing myself each day.

After learning about what Alpha Beta Gamma was, and reading about what other members shared, my decision became clear. I knew that joining Alpha Beta Gamma was an honor and an opportunity I could not pass up. Alpha Beta Gamma is going to open a new door of opportunities for me not only now but for my future and I am looking forward to the journey it takes me on.

Alpha Betta Gamma means to me that with hard work and perseverance you can accomplish anything that comes your way. I want to prove not only to myself, but to my family that anything is possible no matter how old you are or what challenges may get in your way. You can do it. One day at a time. I will always push myself one step farther, even though it will be extremely hard at times, but in the end, it will be worth every minute and a journey I look forward to seeing through.

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution that Dr. Mary Bone, Adviser Emeritus at Pensacola Community College has made to her chapter and to the national organization.

How Learning and Education Advances Society

Karen Richards, *Beta Omicron*

Learning at any age is a form of education. We learn at a very young age to make sounds and eventually form words with them. The more involved the parent or parents are with the child, the more likely they will have an early vocabulary and the more educated the parents, the more varied their vocabulary will be. This will enable them in learning better. Reading to a child so that they can read along with you, is one way they can start to identify words. Modeling polite and respectful behavior, being helpful, doing chores, however simple, are also ways to educate a child to be responsible and respectful.

It has been scientifically proven that a child's brain is expanding from the time of conception till age 5. Therefore, this is the best time in life to be teaching a child new things: words, languages, good habits, and so on. How can an infant in embryo learn new things? They can hear and see as early as 18 to 20 weeks. They are already taking in information. When they are born, they can recognize their mother's voice. They can also recognize music if it was played for them while they were in the womb. Trauma can negatively affect a fetus' brain just as a calm mother can give her unborn child a feeling of safety before he or she is a part of the world.

The educational system is structured from pre-K through college to help a child to learn with his or her developing brain. Some children learn faster or easier than others and have skipped classes or grades and a few even go to college as young as 10 years old (Michael Kearney, 1994). Most children develop at a regular rate that is in conjunction with the school system. The ways children are taught has changed over time and there certainly is more to learn and more technological advances to enable them to learn. In fact, it seems, technology can be a detriment with the games and other distractions that are offered on the internet. It can detract from learning if not kept in balance. The lights of laptops and phones can also interfere with a good night's sleep if not shut off an hour before bedtime. Sleep is very essential for a student to be able to learn well and help maintain good health.

It is fortunate that today many colleges offer CLEP tests and early college so a student can opt out of classes while gaining credits or earn them as double credits through attending before finishing high school. Community Colleges enable young adults who otherwise couldn't afford college tuition to attend and get financial aid that covers most if not all of their costs. Student's should feel encouraged by their teachers to do their best. They should look forward to classes and not have either a fear of failure or a tendency to be bored. Teachers should provide options to those who can take on more and remind those struggling that tutors are available to help catch up with the rest of the class. Education opens a lot of doors. Without the ability to read, write, and do math, considered the three basics for years, a person would be stuck in a low-level paying position. Developing one's skills as they graduate from class to class and school level to the next one, a future goal can be envisioned and give one hope to attain a good job and life one day. Teachers who love their jobs create the safest and most nurturing environments for their students. All who enter the field of education should share their enthusiasm with the classes they teach, so the next generation and those to follow will have the same vibrant attitude to give to the world.

Mrs. Abeles was a distinguished benefactress of community college education. She truly believed that it is learning and education which advance society.

Ten Ways to be a Successful Student

These tips can be used by either traditional or online students.

Successful students have a few things in common. If you want to ace your assignments, thrive in classroom discussions, and overcome the challenges of virtual learning, give these ten tips a try.

1. Start the semester right.

The first week of a class can set the course for the rest of the semester. Use your first few days wisely by evaluating your course load, making a schedule for yourself, and becoming familiar with course expectations.

The first week in a class can be a little disorienting. New students must learn to navigate their Canvas "classroom," interact with their peers and professors without actually seeing them face-to-face, but all students, whether taking online or traditional classes, balance assignments with everyday lives.

2. Embrace the syllabus.

The syllabus is your guide to everything about a class – what assignments are due, how you'll be graded, and how you can contact the professor. Don't just file this paperwork away. Review it early and refer to it often.

Learning how to interpret a class syllabus is an essential skill for all learners. Almost all professors provide students with a syllabus that includes course information such as a list of required textbooks, necessary prerequisite courses, assignment due dates, and other expectations.

Without reminders from teachers and classmates, it's especially easy for learners to forget an assignment or a test. By taking an inventory of your syllabus at the beginning of the course and reviewing it regularly, you can stay on top of your work – even if your professor doesn't provide regular reminders.

3. Become a master of multimedia.

The new generation of classes includes interactive features such as forums, video conferencing, message boards, and podcasts. Become familiar with using multimedia technology so that you can thrive in any virtual situation.

A growing number of universities offer multimedia learning components such as chat rooms, collaborative projects, and web conferencing. These multimedia components can help students effectively master the subject matter. But, multimedia learning also has a downside: inexperienced students can easily become distracted with the platform instead of the subject. It's easy to waste time chatting on course message boards or tuning out a podcast lecture.

4. Create a safe place for your studies.

Since all of your work will be done away from a traditional classroom, it's essential to create a study spot of your own. Whether you have an entire office or just a desk in your living room, make sure it's organized with the supplies you need and available for use at any time.

If you're like most learners, you love the freedom of learning at home. You revel in the joy of taking an online math test in your pajamas and appreciate the fact that a snack from the kitchen is only a few steps away. But home distractions can become a problem, particularly if you haven't organized a special place to get your work done. If you feel overwhelmed by the constant distraction of phone calls, family or roommate interruptions, and disorganization, you need to create an environment where you can really get to work.

Continued on page 25

A Passion for Helping Others

Shanna Guy, Beta Omicron

Take a moment to recall the last time you helped someone. Whether it was small and simple, or extravagant and large-hearted, I'm willing to bet that whatever you did makes you feel really good inside. This is because helping others is a very powerful action that allows us to live a life full of satisfaction, meaning, and trust.

Looking back, my desire to be helpful developed at a very young age. I grew up living in poverty with a single mom who struggled to keep things afloat for myself and little brother. Due to our financial status, my mom always had to work multiple jobs and we lived paycheck to paycheck. She never asked anyone for help which made me want to be mature and responsible so I could make things easier for her. I would clean the house, babysit my brother, cook dinner, listen to her talk about long workdays, and make her crafts to show how much I appreciated her. Although it wasn't always ideal to face these difficulties at the time, they serve as my first real memories of trying to help someone.

I can also remember volunteering at a nursing home that my mom worked at in Amesbury, Massachusetts. Since she couldn't afford after school programs, I would often go to work with her when I wasn't in school. I helped out in the activities department and one of my favorite tasks was to go around to the different rooms to spend time with the patients.

One lady always would ask if I could paint her nails and she would pay me with her lovely life stories. It made me feel really good inside because she never really had visitors and I could tell she treasured our time together.

This competition honors a true supporter of the Eta Delta Chapter who took a very special interest in Alpha Beta Gammans by being their greatest cheerleader and supporter. The mother of adviser Nancy Rocky, Ester Cross-Carter attended chapter eetings and events and was proud of her affiliation with Alpha Beta Gamma. She was the wind beneath the wings of the Eta Delta Chapter.

I look to the future because that's where I'm going to spend the rest of my life.
--George Burns

Note: The following pages contain excerpts from the full business plan as submitted for competition

Vasil Zisi, Beta Omicron

Blue Moon Club

Executive Summary:

Blue Moon Club will be a music venue in the Haverhill waterfront area, where there is currently a growing demand due to the increase in college students. The plan outlines why this is a promis-ing endeavor as well as what strategies and considerations will ensure the success of the business.

Company Description

Our business will be a venue focusing on live musical entertainment, fulfilling the growing demand for nightlife in the Haverhill area as the college youth demographic grows. The main focus of the business will be the musical entertainment and alcoholic beverages, but plan to diversify our income and expand beyond the college youth demographic by also offering rental space, birthday and event packages, and other types of shows as well, making sure that our establishment can offer anyone a night to be remembered.

Mission Statement

The mission of our business is to establish a foothold in the local music scene, which we will accomplish through strong marketing and working with artists to mutually grow popularity.

Vision Statement

The vision of our business is to become a common name in the music industry, a place where upcoming artists aspire to play at, and local music fans watch closely to see who we will host next.

Target Market

Our target market is primarily 20-30-year olds who enjoy music and the nightlife.This will heavily include, but not be limited to college students.

Competition

Our competition will include well known venues such as *The Middle East* in Boston and *ONCE* in Somerville, as well as the Lawrence nightclub scene.

Products and Services

Our core product will be entertainment. We are trying to sell fun, and we should keep that in mind as we market ourselves. The bulk of our earnings will come from drink sales. Our secondary service which will help bring in some extra money will be providing rental space while we are not holding concerts.

Market Research

Market Research plays a very important part for this step. First of all, market research for our specific business which is a nightclub, has to do with the different clubs that are around. Our location is going to be between (Lawrence and Lowell), and from my experience being around the clubs in this area, I can say that they play Hispanic music. The clubs with this type of music are: Attika, Gult, El Tipico, Noah lounge, Blue etc. There are a few clubs with hip hop and pop music such as: Revolution in Lowell and Centro Night club in Lawrence. However, these clubs are only opened for special occasions such as, a big artist coming to perform. Noah Lounge, Blue and Revolution are small nightclubs / lounges. We plan on having a night-club which will have different nights of music and will be different from just a regular small lounge that the Haverhill scenes is used to.

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I have promoted a lot of shows in Centro Night club and Revolution and I can say that most of the people who go there are between 20-30 years old. In Haverhill or other towns around such as Lawrence, Methuen and Lowell there are a lot of college students that go to these clubs. Beside that, people that go to the clubs in Lawrence are mostly Hispanic and that is because the population in Lawrence is Hispanic and that data can be found on the internet.

Key Competitors

The clubs in Lawrence have Latin music and our club is going to have Latin music too, however we are going to have hip hop and other genres which differs us from the basic Latin clubs in Lawrence. It is known that UMass Lowell has a lot of students and I have a lot of friends there that travel all the way to Boston because they want to go at a club that plays hip hop music. Our nightclub not only is going to have the best hip hop nights, but also is going to have special discounts for students which will attract them and other students around the area. If people would want to celebrate a birthday or do a fashion show, our club is going to be the best choice because the clubs around are small and usually charge a lot.

Target Consumers

Our target consumers will consist largely of college students in the Merrimack Valley area. It is important to keep in mind that this is a very ethnically diverse area, which will also produce a large variety of musical preferences, which we will have to keep in mind while booking artists.

Marketing Strategy

Our marketing will be largely through social media, as this is the best way to reach our target demographic, through social media analytics to insure our efforts are being concentrated on music fans in our target age range. To reach music fans we will also advertise on radio and platforms such as Spotify. Since we are a music venue, artists will bring in their fans and do a lot of our marketing for us.

Organizational Plan

○ **Ownership and Legal Structure**

The ownership structure will be a four way partnership LLC. Three of the partners will be the management team, with the forth as a more hands off investor. An LLC partnership seems the best choice as this will keep decisions in the hands of the owners while also limiting risk to their personal assets.

○ **Management Team**

The management team will consist of the three main partners. One will be responsible for daily operations, one for promotion, and one for booking and artist negotiation.

Operations and Development Plan

○ **Location**

The space needed will be a 7,000-10,000 sq ft space in the downtown Haverhill waterfront area. Based on Loopnet searches, the typical commercial space in this area at about 8,000 sq ft rents for around $13,500 monthly. The main obstacle is that an optimal space in the area we want is not currently available, but it may be in the near future, as the waterfront area is currently under heavy development. The city, currently trying to rebrand its image, will likely be very receptive to the idea of having a venue in the area, and may be willing to help find or provide space for the club. With the growing college population as well as the development downtown, there is a market growing for such a venue, with nobody trying to fill the niche.

○ **Distribution Channels**

Distribution channels are not a major concern for our club. All that is needed is a steady liquor supply easily obtainable from any local liquor store, and light office and bar supplies obtainable from any local market or shop.

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The main concerns will be a steady supply of artists, which will mean it is essential that we establish good relations with regional booking agents and pay them a good fee for helping match us with artists. Most other operating costs for us are not frequently recurring and not something that we need to worry about in our day to day.

○ **Personnel Needs**

Depending on the time of year and size of the event being held, we will need to have 1-3 bartenders, 3-6 security staff, and 1-2 sound engineers on hand.

○ **Job Responsibility and Duties**

Security: This will be the most important position at the nightclub. It is important that all customers are safe and happy. Security will also ensure that nobody underage sneaks in and drinks, and no other illegal activity occurs, which the club could be held liable for.
Bar: It is also important the club has a capable bar staff to supply refreshments and light snacks to patrons.
Sound: The club also needs a small team of individuals who know how to properly operate and maintain the audio equipment of the club to ensure the best experience for both the audience and artist.

Promotional Plan

○ **Advertising Strategy**

When it comes to marketing and promotion, the best way to advertise and promote your business nowadays is through social media. In our nightclub we are going to throw shows so we definitely will have a Facebook page so we can create events there and let people know details about the show. Our event is going to pop up at everyone's notification section that is near our area. I would say that Instagram is the most usable and desirable social media when it comes to events. Personally, I promote the events on my Instagram. On Instagram you have a various of options. First of all, you can post the event on your story which will stay for 24 hours, however if you want it to appear on your profile, you can simply highlight it and it will show up there. Also, if you have more than 10K followers Instagram allows you to attach a link to your story. This is very helpful for our nightclub because we are going to have a link where people can get tickets online and we are going to put this link on our Instagram story. With a simple click under the story people can get to the ticket page and buy the tickets for the show. Another option is the post on Instagram which will reach all your followers. You can use hashtags to reach more people and that is what we are going to do. Some of the hashtags that I'm familiar with and they are good for our nightclub are: #boston, #bostonhiphop, #bostonevents, #lowellnightlife, #lawrence, #nightclubs etc. Also, we are going to use the location when we post our events so we can reach out more people. Sponsored ads are another great way to advertise our events. With sponsored ads our event is going to reach out everyone that is near our area and more specifically it will reach out the people who are interested in events, nightlife and clubs. I have worked in different clubs so I have made a lot of connections with different promoters around the area so that will help us too because they are going to post our event on their social media and more people will know about it. Another way to promote our nightclub and events is by handing out flyers in the area. One week before the show we are going to be in different areas around clubs such as Lawrence, Lowell or Methuen and we are going to hand out flyers to people that are going to spend their night at a club. In this way we know that they like clubs since they are going to one and also we will let them know about out event through the flyer that they are going to get. For the ticket sales, despite the link online to get them, we are going to have physical tickets to make it easier for people to get them and we will let them in different locations so they can go and get them to the nearest place they can.

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Financial Plan

○ **Pricing Strategy**

Ticket pricing will be up to the artist based on their typical sales, with the venue negotiating appropriate percentages of earnings. Typically for show consisting of local artists, a $20 dollar ticket with the club taking around 25% of this will be reasonable. Most of our money will be made from drink sales.

Venue rentals will fluctuate between $700-$900 dollars per day depending on time of year and demand, with additional fees if a provided sound engineer or bartender is desired.

○ **Startup and Operations Costs**

Major startup costs include legal and licensing fees, heavy promotion, and purchasing equipment. These will be offset by owner contributions and a loan.

○ **12-month cash-flow projection**

Our 12-month cash-flow projection includes all of the previously discussed expenses. We estimated conservatively on our income, keeping time of year in mind. A five year loan is required to fund the start of the business, and by the end of the year we still have cash on hand, but not much, so it is very important for our business that we have continued growth over time if we wish to survive.

Barriers to Entry

- •Extensive licensing
- •Limited space in Downtown Haverhill area
- •Artist preference to play already established venues

SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- Income diversity
- Group experience
- Location
- Focus on bar

Weaknesses

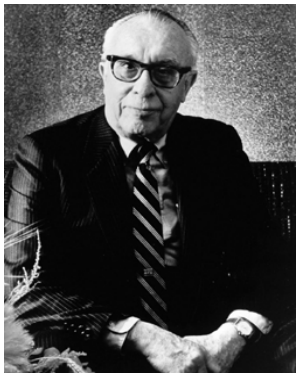
- No food
- Limited funding

Opportunities

- Growing student population in the area, apparent by the expansion of the UMass Lowell Haverhill campus, and the establishment of the NECC culinary center both in the downtown area.
- Artists bring in their fans
- Unsaturated club/venue scene in the area

Threats

- Low Income area
- Lack of established nightlife in the city
- Draw of clubs in nearby Lawrence



This award honors the memory of member Nathan Ancell, founder of Ethan Allen, the nation's leading furniture company.

What Every College Student Should Be Doing for Career Success

There are different types of college students: the ones who spend their years locked away in the library, the ones who leave everything to the last minute, the ones who spend more time socializing than studying, the ones who split their time between work and the classroom, the ones who do either one of the above things and the ones who try to do them all.

With all these experiences college comes with, preparing for the future from the first day may not be a priority. And by this, I mean the post-graduation life. I know I did not start thinking about it until my sophomore year. In retrospect, I should have probably started planning sooner. But since I cannot undo the past, I can only share what I've learned and help someone in the situation I was in.

If possible, every college student should start planning for the future early. This means being involved on campus and staying in the know of what is happening, networking with professors and going after professional experiences - this is all in addition to studying and acing your classes of course. Doing this can be the difference between many job offers by the time it's graduation season or a long period of unemployment or underemployment. As a college student, you want to stay on top of what needs to be done to create a positive outcome.

McGraw-Hill Education's Future Workforce Survey revealed some interesting (and in some cases, troubling) statistics about recent graduates.

-College graduates don't feel well-equipped to face the real world

- Only 4 in 10 U.S. college students feel very or extremely prepared for their future careers. Women were less confident in their career readiness.
- Many reported feeling like their college experience did not provide the critical skills they need to transition into the workforce, such as solving complex problems (43%), resume writing (37%), interviewing (34%) and job searching (31%)

-There's a gap between student and employer perceptions

- 77% of students reported feeling confident in their professionalism, work ethic, teamwork and collaboration skills, while employers felt less enthusiastic - according to the recent NACE Job Outlook Study. In fact, only 43% of them feel recent grads are proficient in these areas.

-More experience helps with confidence and career readiness

- More than half of students surveyed said increased access to internships and other professional experiences would have helped them feel better prepared

You may find these findings scary or motivating (I hope it's the latter). While for the most part, they point to a grim post-college reality, there is something you can do for a better outcome. Yes, you can take control from this point forward and make the most out of your college experience—for better job prospects

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and career opportunities after graduation. Use these tips to inform your action plan.

Take advantage of your campus career resources

Are you a regular visitor of your college career center? If not, you're part of the 40-something percent of students surveyed who reported not taking advantage of it. And if that's the case, you should start. From job fairs, career advisors to resume support and internships, there are so many campus career resources available. As a student, you need to be proactive in finding and using them.

It wasn't until the start of my sophomore year that I discovered my school's career center. I took advantage of the many different workshops they offered (resume building, cover letter writing, interviewing, networking, etc.) and it was a game-changer for my early career. From this I gained the skills to land more than four internships and volunteer at a nearby university—all before my senior year. This helped me feel so much more prepared for the real world after graduation.

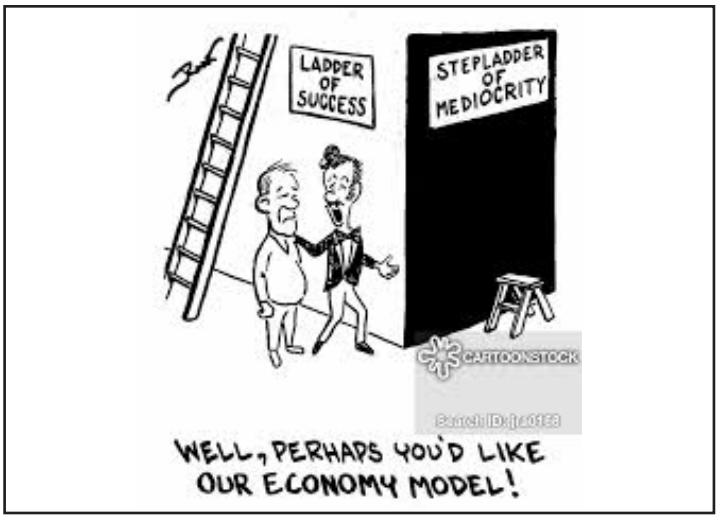
Actively look for professional opportunities

Whether it be a season job, internship or volunteer gig, take every opportunity you come across to develop the skill set you'll need in the future. Finding these jobs will often require a proactive approach combined with patience, so carve out some time to do the work. Connect with other students to form a supportive network where you'll encourage each other.

In this highly competitive landscape, come up with creative ways to stand out in the job search. Maybe you'll develop an app to apply for a tech internship or send a physical toolbox of your resume for a job at Home Depot (yes, this actually happened). Keep in mind, it doesn't have to be something so out of the ordinary in order to get hired. Bringing some originality and creativity to the job search certainly helps your chances though.

Create your own opportunities

Don't limit yourself to internships or traditional jobs to acquire the experience you'll need when you join the workforce. Especially if these opportunities aren't coming your way. In this digital age, anyone can start a successful venture with a few clicks and a good wifi connection. Whether you start a blog, launch a photography business or take an online coding/marketing course, use part of your free time to give yourself opportunities with the same gains (more experience). This is key to not only practicing leadership, managing your time, connecting with new people, but also (and most importantly) honing a set of skills.



Work For Yourself - Don't Have a Boss

Yasmine Toure, Eta Rho

Jobs are important for human beings who want to be financially stable and take care of their relatives and personal needs. Because of financial stability, some people do not want to start a business that may not be as successful as they predicted. However, how can individuals be sure that a business is not going to be successful if they do not take the risk to quit their jobs to start a business they have always dreamed of? Entrepreneurship should not be seen as a possibility of failure, but rather as a path towards success. Indeed, businesses are surely a way for entrepreneurs to live their dreams, improve their finances, and enhance their mental well-being. There are numerous successful entrepreneurs in different fields that confirm that taking the risk to start a business is worthy.

First, entrepreneurship is profitable not only for entrepreneurs' financial gains, but also for their mental health. Starting a business makes an individual their own boss, and the greatest part of the business' profit goes to the business owner. As Richard Branson, a businessman co-founder of the British multinational venture capital conglomerate Virgin Group, said, "entrepreneurship is about turning what excites you in life into capital, so that you can do more of it and move forward with it." Having a successful business guarantees business owners a financial stability that will help them taking care of their personal needs and their relatives' wishes. Entrepreneurship is also beneficial to the entrepreneur's mental well-being. In fact, business owners often leave their jobs to start their businesses in a field in which they are interested. There are numerous types of businesses. Some entrepreneurs are hairstylists, fashion designers, or art gallery owners. Starting a business in a field in which they are interested makes them enthusiastic about the job duties, and business owners find joy in doing their jobs. Since business owners work in activity sectors they are passionate about, it increases their chances of being successful, and at the same time, decreases the chances of failure.

Furthermore, potential entrepreneurs could help society with their businesses. Indeed, businesses bring benefits to both individuals' and the countries' economy. New businesses create jobs, which decrease countries' unemployment rate and workers pay federal income taxes, which is money for states and counties. Workers are also consumers and they practice activities they enjoy during their free time which are also profitable for retailers, businesses, and government since they have to spend money. Moreover, new businesses will attract new residents and tourists to the state or county in which they launch their businesses. For example, an entrepreneur who decides to open a local restaurant specialized in a particular type of food, such as seafood or a particular cultural cooking, will attract tourists, and tourism is beneficial for the economy of a country. Outsiders might even move closer to the restaurant due to the particularity of the meals cooked if the meals are related to their values or culture in one way or another. Thus, new businesses are assets for individuals, counties, states, and the country at large.

Continued on page 26

This award was established to honor the entrepreneurial talent of Don Christesen. This essay will consider the topic "Work for Yourself—Don't Have a Boss".

Using Finance for Corporate Growth

Brandon Letherman, Gamma

When a company, no matter what department, spends money it is considered a corporate finance decision. With this in mind, how are routine expenses, such as paying contractors or employees, growing the company specifically? A company could invest in stocks, long term bonds, production expansions, and many other investments. These are just examples; the variety of investment opportunities a company has available is nearly endless. Corporate Finance will focus on employee benefits and long-term investment opportunities to truly utilize finance for corporate growth.

However, before exhausting all of the investment opportunities available to companies, a rundown of capital budgeting (INV) is necessary. If a company is to be confident in an investment, production expansion, employee benefits adjustment, etc. they need to have vigorous evaluation of the true effect the change will have. A company will be confident in this process if they evaluate and project the growth/gains difference of the new investment. In order for this process to be quicker or more effective, C-suite support can be the difference between the decision being made or not. This is mainly the case because using capital budgeting can often yield profit gain results; these are particularly effective to the C-suite members (CFO, CIO, CEO, etc). If they can see the profit in dollar signs or productivity increases, gaining their backing for the investment will be much simpler. To be clear, capital budgeting is primarily effective on projects, i.e. production plant expansions, but still can be applied to other investments.

Now that we know how to make informed decisions on our investments, how do we pick the one that is best for a specific company? This often depends on the size of the company; this is the first major indicator on the available investment opportunities. The largest companies will focus on growth through things like acquisitions, corporate bonds, and even stocks. Acquisitions for larger companies is an especially important talking point; as a company gets larger and larger it becomes significantly more difficult to grow without the integration of acquisitions. For example, Berry Global, a Fortune 500 company, engages in many acquisitions, i.e. RPC Group (this was last year in 2019 and it was a $6.5 billion-dollar acquisition) (BG). While acquisitions may not be necessary to continue growing in specific fields, it should always be considered. The concept of acquisitions and what they do to help grow a company can be reverse engineered to help smaller businesses understand what is needed for them to grow. To explain, acquisitions either: 1. Take out a competitor, known as synergies, or 2. Obtain new design or engineering capabilities/technologies. While it could be both, we can look at the core reasons for acquisitions and apply them to any other business.

Continued on page 26

David E. Bjorklund, former Vice President of the Delta Chapter died suddenly in an auto accident in March 2006. At 35 years old Dave already achieved an excellent career in finance working with Morgan Stanley. Fellow Alpha Beta Gammans who studied with Dave at Clarkson University established this essay fund. The theme of the essay is "Using Finance for Corporate Growth"

A Seed of Hope

Zaida Gamboa, Beta Omicron

As Former President Barack Obama said, "we don't fear the future—we shape it". How truthful is that? Since the beginning of our existence, we, human beings, have been worried and thoughtful about our future. Whether it comes to climate change, poverty, or who is going to be the next American Idol, we always think about the future. We shape the future as a result of our actions of today.

Yes, the future is important, but it's also unknown. Through hard work with our community, we can shape the future and help create a better and safer world.

As a Latina woman who grew up in a third world country as well as in a working-class family headed by a single mom, I experienced the fear of having an unknown future. I was not always a fearless woman. I used to fear going out to take the bus home after school. I was scared of being harassed by a man while walking to school, or worse, becoming a shooting victim. On top of that, I always worried that I was not becoming someone who could shape the world for the best.

My mother, without having anything but love to give, always encouraged me to give back to the community. Since Middle School, she taught me how to plant a seed of hope in a child who has been through a difficult situation. We used to gather toys and clothing from family and friends with the goal of personally giving them away to children who live in impoverished neighborhoods. These moments so fulfilled my heart that I was eager to continue giving.

As a result of being part of this wonderful experience, I decided to take it to the next level. In November 2019, I started a fundraiser in which I successfully collected $1,000 in donations that would be given for Christmas to children who lived in impoverished neighborhoods in my hometown, the port city of Veracruz. Through this act of giving, I was given the opportunity to talk with more than 50 children about the importance of education and not giving up their dreams.

I explained to them that this can be accomplished through hard work. On Christmas day, the children who love music; but don't have resources to get any instruments, were given recorders as well as small guitars. Also, children who love art were given coloring books as well as markers and other art supplies. With my Christmas project called "A Happy Holiday" I successfully with the help of family and friends planted a seed of hope in many children who hardly received anything on Christmas day. Additionally, "A Happy Holiday" helped many local family businesses from whom we bought the toys and supplies thus supporting the local economy in Veracruz.

This experience not only benefited the people of Veracruz, but also my family and friends who were involved. We all learned from children that no matter how small an act is, it can have a dramatic impact on someone's life, by simply showing them that someone cares and want to help. Our hearts were fulfilled and as a result of this experience, and we all feel motivated to continue working on this project, year after year. Furthermore, I have set a future goal of developing a sustainable nonprofit organization that boosts the economy and education in Veracruz by teaching the importance of volunteering and helping one another. It is possible to leave poverty behind and be successful.

This essay honors Paul V. Cunningham, CFO of Alpha Beta Gamma for more than two decades. He is Director of Construction Finance Management at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC. The Executive Board created this essay to recognize his Contribution to the society.

Groaners

Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

I was wondering why the ball was getting bigger. Then it hit me!

I Renamed my iPod The Titanic, so when I plug it in, it says "The Titanic is syncing."

Last night, I dreamed I was swimming in an ocean of orange soda. But it was just a Fanta sea.

It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things, literally.

What's the difference between a hippo and a zippo? One is really heavy and the other is a little lighter.

I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory. All I did was take a day off.

Quotes to Live By

"If you always do what interests you, at least one person is pleased."
— Katharine Hepburn

"All our dreams can come true – if we have the courage to pursue them."
— Walt Disney

"There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure." — Paulo Coelho

"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you." — John Bunyan

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."
— Eleanor Roosevelt

"Don't allow your past or present condition to control you. It's just a process that you're going through to get you to the next level." — T.D. Jakes

"Happiness is not achieved by the conscious pursuit of happiness; it is generally the by-product of other activities." — Aldous Huxley

Ethics In Business

Ashley Holeman, Gamma

Think back to the places you have worked or the businesses you frequent. Does anything stick out to you more than others? Maybe it's the way the business was run. Maybe it was how your boss or co-workers treated you. The one word that sticks out to me the most when I hear the words "business ethics" is respect. Respect for the company, yourself, and those around you. From young children into adulthood we are taught ethics. As a young child you were more than likely taught not to hit others because it wasn't nice or the ethical thing to do. Being able to distinguish right from wrong is an important key to conquering life and behaving in a manner that is acceptable to our society. So, what is ethics in business? According to Will Kenton's Business Ethics article on investopedia.com, "Business ethics is the study of proper business policies and practices regarding potentially controversial issues such as corporate governance, insider trading, bribery, discrimination, corporate social responsibility and fiduciary responsibilities."

According to the article called 12 Ethical Principles for Business Executives on the Josephson Institute website, the basic ethical principles for business are principles we should value in all human interactions. Honesty, integrity, and promise-keeping are character traits exemplified by what we say, and what we do about what we say. Being truthful in every circumstance, do what is right even when others are not following suit, and sticking to doing what you say will do are all important. Loyalty, fairness, concern, and respect for others are character traits describing how we act toward other people, whether employees, employers, coworkers, or customers. We should be devoted to our duties, just in all dealings, follow the "golden rule," and showing respect to everyone regardless of things like sex, and race, are all of a high ethical standard. For a business, being law abiding and having a commitment to excellence are just good business practiced in general, following all rules and regulations set by the state and federal government, and striving to do the best work possible whether you're the employer or employee. Finally, maintaining accountability, the company's reputation and morale, and displaying ethical leadership are equally as important. Leaders should be full of positive attitudes along with striving to make the team grow along with them. Leaders should remain fair and just, as well as upholding a valuable reputation for the business and following the guidelines for an ethical business while assuring that they give and take credit for any work performed, whether it is good or bad. Even performing bad work can be a learning experience and employers will credit an employee more if they stand up and take accountability. Never push your mistakes off on someone else.

I have been working since I was 15 years old. I have worked at several places as well as been in leadership positions with two of those places of employment. From my experience in the work field I would have to say that reputation is a huge part of a business's success.

Continued on page 26

Applicants for this award must submit an essay on the subject "Ethics in Business".

Living Life to Its Fullest
Luke Lehe, Gamma

Like many aspects in our society, the concept of time can be particularly difficult to grasp for most individuals. Even though time can be broken down fairly easily into specific increments such as hours and days, the true measure of it is often times lost or underestimated. Everything in this world is a victim to the endless cycle of time, which includes life itself. Human beings have a fairly long life expectancy, especially in today's world with the average person living well into their seventies. However, no matter how many days fit into those seventy years, there still is not enough time for human beings to accomplish everything they have ever wanted to do. For this reason, I believe the saying, "live life to the fullest" is one that all human beings need to adopt before it is too late.

It is not rocket science that human beings have a fundamental need to be happy and have a purpose. Living life to the fullest will not be the "be-all, end-all" solution; however, it certainly will not hurt us, in my opinion. For any individual you ask, their answer will differ in what they believe this cliché saying means. Personally, I think that stripping away all the distractions from our everyday lives is essential in trying to live life to the fullest. Life can be as simple or complex as we make it. When it comes down to the basics, I believe that life is all about self-improvement, caring for others, and experiencing the world around us. As far as ourselves, I think reaching our fullest potential in all that we do is a way to live life to the fullest. Nobody is going to be the best at everything, but if we strive for greatness every single day then failure is simply a steppingstone. Rather than creating excuses we can create goals instead. Rather than waiting on opportunities to come to us, we pursue them and take calculated risks. Having consistency and being disciplined throughout is key, while also holding true to our own principals, values and religion as a guiding stone.

As far as others, living life to the fullest could simply mean loving others unconditionally. Love can be expressed in numerous ways depending on who is the recipient, but it is crucial we have the right intentions. No matter the race, religion, or ethnicity we are all humans at the end of the day trying to succeed. Living life to the fullest means looking past these differences and coming together since life is too short to not do this. Simply putting down your cellphone to have a conversation can go a long way. People need people no matter what. Being selfless I believe is a way to show someone you love them, which brings more purpose to life. Human beings are remembered for how successful they have become, but also how they made others feel. Life is too short to put others down, bully, or antagonize them. Focus on how you can be a light in this dark world. This I believe are some ways to enrich our own lives.

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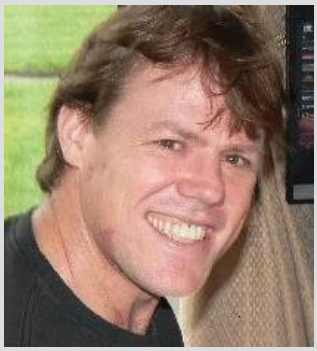


This essay competition which involves writing about the concept of Living Life to Its Fullest honors the life and practices of Keith Ulich, A.S., B.S., M.B.A , former vice president of the Delta chapter of Alpha Beta Gamma at Westchester Community College , and a member of the Board of Advisers of the Alpha Beta Gamma National Finance Committee.

Pros and Cons of being an Entrepreneur

Brooke Naatz, Beta Omicron

The word entrepreneur is a very daunting word. Anyone can want to be an entrepreneur, but not everyone can follow through and become one. Being an entrepreneur and starting your own business comes with great risk, but also, if successful, tremendous accomplishment. Like anything, entrepreneurship has its pros and its cons.

Starting with cons, as mentioned above, entrepreneurship comes with a huge amount of risk. A startup company will not start collecting profit for the first few years in business. During those first several years, the entrepreneur will not be generating any income. This is a result of all the entrepreneur's time, energy, and attention that will be indefinitely put on running the company; meaning no time for another job. Even if an entrepreneur puts in one hundred percent effort, fifty percent of start-up businesses still manage to fail. Whether the company is successful or not successful, the entrepreneur will let the job of starting and maintaining the health of the company dominate their life, with little to no return for several years.

Steve Perri was a Chapter Vice President and President of a Roofing Company which he formed. An unfortunate work-related accident took Steve's life. This award was funded by family and friends.

As an effect of the immense amount of risk being an entrepreneur comes with, another con is that the entrepreneur will sustain a lot of stress as they endeavor to get the company up and running. It is very likely that the entrepreneur will come across situations where they are forced to make difficult decisions that could, potentially, negatively influence the outcome of the company. The "what-if" thoughts are constantly floating in the back of an entrepreneur's mind. The entrepreneur must always be thinking one step ahead of their competitors, because there's always competitors. Stakes are high for the entrepreneur, who has spent countless hours and endless dollars trying to make his or her dream of running their own business a reality.

On the brighter side, if a business is still up and running and stable after the first few years, then that means the entrepreneur beat the odds; resulting in tremendous accomplishment. They were successful at generating profit and all their hard work at starting the company has paid off. This by no means allows the entrepreneur to stop working hard, but it shows the dedication, motivation, and hard work, put in so far, has paid off. The time working for no income and all the countless hours has been worthwhile.

People strive to "be their own boss" and be in control. A perk of being an entrepreneur is that you get to be your own boss. As the entrepreneur, you are the owner of the company; you get to be in control. Many people get aggravated with their corporate jobs because they have zero to little say about any decision that involves them in the company. As your own boss, you get to make decisions that involve the business. You also get to make your own work schedule up and get to calculate your own salary. Many people are opposed to working the typical nine to five job, therefore having the ability to create your own schedule is very appealing. The entrepreneur can vacation when he or she wants, or work from home if need be. Having the flexibility of building your own schedule is one of the advantages to becoming an entrepreneur that makes starting your own business reachable.

Continued on page 27

Winner of the John D. Christesen Essay Award

Note: The following pages contain excerpts from the full essay as submitted for competition

Paul Allen, Lee College

The proud legacy enjoyed by the Lee College Huntsville Center was initially established by the efforts by Dean Rundell of Lee College and Dr. George Beto, Director of the Texas Department of Corrections in 1966 to offer academic courses and vocational programs within the Texas prison system. Dean Rundell was impressed with the possibility that such an opportunity offered "tremendous potential for the rehabilitation of TDC offenders to a degree and in a manner that would enable them to survive and progress in the free world upon release!"

The Lee College Board of Regents agreed to participate in the new program beginning in the fall semester of 1966 with 5 academic classes and 176 students. Vocational classes were first offered in the spring of 1967. Soon after, a full complement of Huntsville - based full-time academic and vocational instructors were hired, and by 1984 the program operated as a separate extension of Lee College, based in Huntsville, Texas.

The Huntsville Center A.A.S. Business Management degree program developed and implemented a Faculty Learning Community (FLC) starting in the spring 2018 semester for the purpose of establishing an integrated network of instructors who actively participated as a cohort in developing high impact learning practices, including special course assignments in support of the Capstone Business Plan Project required for the BUSG 2309 Capstone Course and A.A.S. Business Management degree.

The Faculty Learning Community (FLC) represented a group of trans-disciplinary faculty, and professional staff engaged in an active, collaborative program featuring a business based curriculum for enhancing teaching and learning activities which provided professional development opportunities, and with an expectation to promote the scholarship of teaching and learning with a focus on building community. Based on the experience of successfully noted faculty learning communities, as supported by a U.S. Department of Education Grant; Miami University of Oxford, Ohio, FLCs increase faculty interest in teaching and learning and provide safety and support for faculty to investigate, attempt, assess, and adopt new (to them) instructional methods and outcomes. In the literature about student learning communities, the word "student" usually can be replaced by "faculty" and still make the same point, for example, "Learning community students generally fare better academically, socially, and personally than those in comparison groups."

The mission of the Faculty Learning Community - Business Plan Portfolio was to invite trans-disciplinary participation among faculty, along with specialized support staff, for the purpose of designing and developing unique course assignments. These 'Signature' assignments were based on high impact practices to facilitate the creation and completion of the Business Plan Portfolio required for the BUSG 2309 Capstone Course and A.A.S. Business Management degree.

Continued on page 28

This essay describes the environment, pedagogy or other atypical conditions under which the writer experienced a most significant teaching event. The essay describes the process, technique or environment with which a truly exceptional teaching event occurred. Other faculty should be able to emulate the ideations.

Winner of the "My Best Day in Class" Essay Award

Jennifer Miller, Georgia State University, Perimeter College

I have been an Accounting Instructor for two-year colleges for almost a decade and it has been the most rewarding and humbling experience. I have had the opportunity to watch remarkable students reach seemingly unattainable goals and overcome obstacles and it has been inspiring and motivating. Students surprise themselves every day by their achievements. They work hard and make big things happen for their academic and professional careers. They take chances and make sacrifices to change their lives. They fail and then work harder and succeed. The best part of my job as a teacher is the teamwork and compassion that I get to see every day as students defy the odds and achieve their goals and support each other. Students from all walks of life help, encourage and congratulate each other. When it comes down to it, we are a team, we are all alike when we are a team. I am always touched by my students' compassion for me and for each other.

I have had too many good days to count in the classroom, both as a student and as an instructor. I have had my fair share of bad days as well. I am constantly learning from my students and I try my best to teach them what I know. I am inspired by my students all the time. I have chosen one occasion to write about that I will never forget. I am writing about a day that marks my educational career coming full circle, with those students that I am constantly encouraging and cheering for, doing the same thing for me.

My journey studying for the Certified Public Accounting exam began twenty years ago right after I finished my Master of Accountancy degree. At the time, I found it too hard to find the time to study and the mountain to try to pass the exam seemed too high to even try to attempt to climb. I did not believe in myself, I did not study and failed. I worked for several years as an accountant and did not really need to be a CPA. I had the educational and work requirements to be a CPA, but I was too afraid to try to retake the exam. This defeat hung over me like a dark cloud. One day, a student asked me if I was a CPA and that question cut though me. Embarrassed and ashamed, I told the student that I was not and when they asked why I was not, I did not have a response. I could not tell this student that I was too busy given that I had a classroom of students that work part-time or full-time jobs or are parents, yet find the time to be full time students. I could not tell this student that I was afraid to fail while some of my students in the classroom spoke English only as a second language, yet were taking Accounting and working on their degree in America as international students. I looked at my students and realized that I had no excuse not to try. They taught me that and I was inspired by them to be better for them.

Spring Semester 2016: I was emotionally exhausted and overjoyed as I headed into my ACCT 2102 Managerial accounting class at 8:30 in the morning. I had been up all night waiting for the last part of the CPA exam results which were scheduled to be posted at two o'clock in the morning. I was heading into class to a group of students that was particularly special to me because I had them for ACCT 2101 the previous fall and they had been with me for that whole year, through studying for all four parts of the exam and all of the highs and lows that come with studying for the CPA exam. They had listened to me and encouraged me as I doubted if I could do it and sacrificed time to be able to try to meet this goal.

Continued on page 27

An essay by Business and Professional faculty at community colleges describing their best day in class - an essay which could inspire other business faculty towards teaching excellence or encourage students to participate more in the learning adventure.

Continued from page 8

5. Achieve family / school balance.

When learning at home, it's often difficult to balance assignments with the needs of your partner or children. Anticipate scheduling problems before they arise, and come up with a solution that works for everyone.

Balancing school and family life can be a challenge, for all learners. While many older adults choose to continue their education through the internet, they often find their study time interrupted by spouses and children who miss them and don't understand the need for "alone time."

6. Play off your strengths.

Flashcards and note reviews can be uninspiring. Instead of relying on old-fashioned study techniques, find out what your "intelligence type" is and use it to excel. Personalizing your study time should make it more enjoyable and more productive.

People are smart in different ways. Some people can create a catchy song at the drop of a hat. Others can memorize everything in a book, paint a masterpiece, or be the center of attention. When you realize what you're good at, you can figure out the best way to study.

7. Become a respected chat room participant.

Chat rooms can be the best place to make connections, share your insights, and stand out in the crowd. But, the seeming informality of the virtual world leads some students to share inappropriate information or be lax with their grammar. Learn how to communicate in chat rooms and take these venues seriously. In return, you'll gain the respect of your professors and the admiration of your peers. Online chats for classes can be nerve-wracking. Students are expected to respond to instructor questions and interact with other students in the chat room, without much time to prepare responses. Unlike traditional classrooms, chat rooms don't give you the chance to see physical cues or hear verbal inflections during a discussion. Additionally, chatters can be hampered by typing speed or poor spelling. Often, students' grades will be determined, in part, by their chat room participation. But, never fear. There is a way to enter chat rooms with confidence and cool.

8. Harness the power of Search Engines.

Search Engine tools can be an amazing resource for your studies. Improve your research skills by mastering online searches, Google Scholar, Microsoft Academic, and other popular resources. You don't have to spend your time looking through card catalogs and searching through thousands of shelved books. All the resources you need for a top-notch research paper can be found online.

9. Know how to ask for help.

Although you won't be working with your professor face-to-face, it's still important to build a relationship and ask for help when necessary. Learn how to communicate effectively with your instructors and avoid the misunderstandings that often arise with electronic discussion.

Interacting with professors can be daunting. Often, virtual communication is more difficult than a face-to-face meeting. But, there's no need to fear.

10. Stay motivated.

Learning is an endurance sport. When you're feeling burned out and tired of staring a screen, don't slack. Remember that everyone has good days and bad. The key to class success: never give up.

Many distance learners agree that the most difficult part of studying is staying motivated. Because students must take the initiative to complete their courses completely on their own, without the physical presence of teachers and other peers, many students find it easy to become distracted and discouraged in their work. Don't let this happen to you – plan ways for yourself to stay motivated before you're tempted

Continued from page 16

Nevertheless, entrepreneurship is not an easy field. It's true that many entrepreneurs failed and had to go back to their initial job with the weight of failure on their shoulder. Entrepreneurs encounter failure phases and other factors that can slow the success of their business. However, succeeding in entrepreneurship is not impossible. Many entrepreneurs started with small ideas and are now wealthy and successful while enjoying their jobs. For instance, J.K. Rowling, who is the writer of the famous series of fantasy novels Harry Potter, started her career being a broke, single mother. According to the website www.biography.com, she started writing the series of Harry Potter after her divorce. Her ex-husband was abusive, and she took care of her daughter thanks to British government financial support. J.K. Rowling almost committed suicide and was diagnosed with clinical depression. Despite all the hard times she was facing, she did not let her writing dreams go and she wrote Harry Potter, which is now a famous saga that has been adapted into movies. Writing is not the first career people think of when they define entrepreneurship, but writers are entrepreneurs because they take the risk to start writing without knowing if they will be successful. As J.K. Rowling, anybody can be a successful entrepreneur no matter the entrepreneurial field that is launched.

In conclusion, entrepreneurship is a risky field that intimidates people. Still, entrepreneurship is mostly a benefit since it contributes to entrepreneurs' well-being and helps society by creating jobs.

Still, taking the risk to start a business does not always mean defeat. Fear should not be an obstacle to become an entrepreneur. There are many potential successful entrepreneurs that are afraid to quit their jobs to be their own boss without knowing that the business they are afraid to start can change not only their own life but the entire society's economy.

Continued from page 17

A small business still needs innovative new designs or engineering feats that cut costs. They also need to combine certain business activities internally. Internal synergies will increase productivity for the business. The better your departments mesh together, the better overall. Focusing on gains, a company can eventually prioritize stronger more effective investments such as production expansions or acquisitions.

Continued from page 20

Most of us would not continue to frequent a place of business if that business had poor ethics or moral standards. We would find a new place of business to take our money, or search for a better place of employment. Following ethical practices within the business can create astonishing achievements for said business. Often times, if employees are treated well, they will stay with the company longer. This raises the company's reputation as well as reducing turnover rates and increasing the productivity of the company.

Customers like to feel important and valued when they visit a business. People work hard for their money and don't want to give it away to a business who doesn't follow the standards above to some extent. Employees want to feel valued and heard. If those needs aren't met, the employee is more likely to search for another job. CEOs want their business to run efficiently, allowing room to grow and expand. Following the guidelines above helps everyone reach a common ground.

Continued from page 21

Lastly, life is all about opportunities and seizing them whenever possible. We live in a materialistic world, but traveling is one way to live life to the fullest. Traveling to other countries or even within your own country opens our eyes up to different cultures or styles of living. Money comes and goes, but the memories from traveling will always stay will us forever. Instead of saving money up for that new videogame or car, put it towards that one trip you have been putting off. Take time in this busy world to actually see the world from a broader perspective. It is impossible to visit every square foot of this beautiful planet, but you will never know what is out there until you look. Sometimes people get this saying mixed up with living recklessly as if it was your last day. I believe living life to the fullest is referring more towards utilizing our limited time more wisely and effectively. Therefore, if we adopt this saying, then maybe our lives will be more enriched and have a greater purpose.

Continued from page 22

Like anything, being an entrepreneur comes with its highs and lows; its pros and cons. With all things considered, being an entrepreneur can be extremely risky, with a lot of stress, but also, if done right, can be remarkably rewarding. Through hard work, dedication, motivation, and persistency, becoming an entrepreneur attainable.

Continued from page 24

The truth and fact is that we were all meeting challenges and overcoming obstacles of our own, hoping to be successful. On this day though, I knew that I had met the challenge, I had overcome an obstacle and I was so happy. I had been inspired by my students not to give up, not to make excuses and this was the moment that I will never forget. I was able to tell this group of students that I was successful, that I had passed that last part, and that they were my inspiration.

I had students in that class that were traditional college students between the ages of 18 to 22, some that were returning to college after having already had a career, some from down the street and some from around the world; this class had students from every background. All so different, yet they all have a common goal. We are all the same when it comes to putting in time and effort and making sacrifices to reach academic and professional goals. It is hard to believe in yourself, especially after defeat. It is hard to start over and start something new. It gets harder as we get older, but it is always possible to improve yourself. My students taught me that.

So, there I was on that day in April and when I walked in, they all knew it was good news. It brought me to tears when they cheered for me. Some even came up and hugged me. It made me realize that we truly are a team. We are all students and in education, we are all the same. That was my best day… so far.

For late-breaking news, time sensitive annoucements, and all kinds of good stuff, check out our website

www.abg.org

Continued from page 23

Goals of the Faculty Learning Community - Business Plan Portfolio support the theme, "Transforming Ideas and Individuals into Small Business Opportunities!"

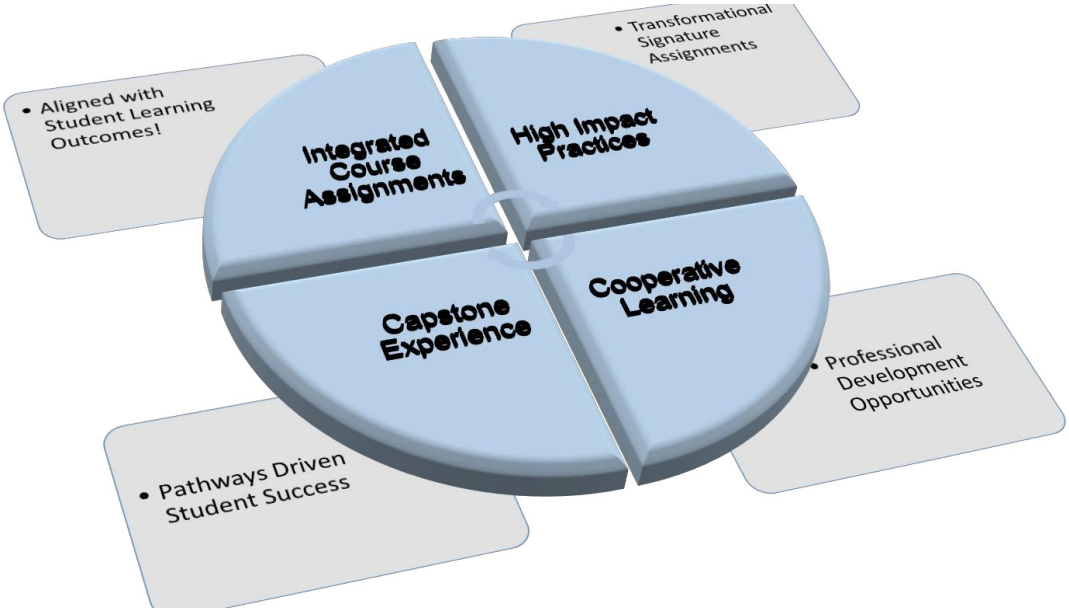
The following learning experiences associated with the Faculty Learning Community - Business Plan Portfolio were 'transformational' for all involved.

Integrated Course Assignments: were linked to both individual course requirements as well as the Business Plan grading rubric. Course assignments were formatted on a standard assignment template and branded for the Business Plan Portfolio. Course assignments not only satisfied separate course requirements for course evaluation, but were also saved to the Business Plan Portfolio 'folder' on the IT Lab server and individual's student account.

High Impact Practices: were encouraged to pro mote the Faculty Learning Community - Business Plan Portfolio and support student learningoutcomes. New scholarly activities emerged, as faculty networked together, and aligned more of their course assignments and expectations with the BUSG 2309 Business Plan project.

Cooperative Learning: new learning opportunities became prevalent in conjunction with peer tutoring and special student business plan assignments. 'Community' engagement linked to student persistence also played a special role in the success of the Faculty Learning Community - Business Plan Portfolio

Capstone Experience: was greatly enhanced based on the success of the new Faculty Learning Community - Business Plan Portfolio. The business plan capstone project was elevated in stature and became 'transformational' as a real opportunity for student success in the real world.



Alpha Beta Gamma International Business Honor Society

Eligible Disciplines

Accounting
Advertising
Agricultural Business
Architectural / Design
Construction Technology
Arts Management
Aviation Management
Baking & Pastry
Banking
Broadcasting, Radio, TV
Business Administration
Business Economics
Business Journalism
Business Management
Business Statistics
Casino Management
Civil Construction Technology
Communications
Communication Technology
Computer Aided Design and Drafting
Computer and Electronics Service Technology
Computer Information Systems
Computer Network Technology
Computer Programming
Conservation & Regulation
Construction Management
Technology
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts
Culinary Management
Dairy Management
Data Processing
Digital Photography
Electrical Electronics Engineering Technology
Electrical Technology
Electronics Servicing Technology
Environmental Design
Economics
Entrepreneurship
Fashion Design
Fashion Marketing & Management
Fashion Merchandising
Finance
Fire Science Technology
Game Art & Design
Graphic Design Technology
Health Insurance Claims Management
Health Information Technology
Health Services Administration
Horticulture Technology
Hotel Management
Human Resource Management
HVAC
Industrial Design
Industrial Management
Interior Design
International Business
International Public Relations
Industrial Relations
International Public Relations
International Studies
Investments & Securities
Legal Secretary
Library Science Assistant
Management Information Systems
Management Science
Market Research
Marketing Management
Media Arts & Animation
Medical Assisting
Medical Secretary
Mortuary Science
Motor Vehicle Technology
Occupational Health & Safety Technology
Office Technologies
Operations Research
Paralegal
Personnel Administration
Postal Services Management
Public Administration
Public Relations
Range Management
Recreational Management
Restaurant Management
Safety and Health Technology
Secretarial Science
Small Business Management
Sport Management
Systems Analyst
Taxation
Textile Engineering
Theatre Management
Trade Management
Transportation Management
Travel & Tourism
Visual & Game Programming
Visual Effects & Motion Graphics
Web Design & Interactive Media
Wildlife Management
Word Processing